

WARREN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MONDAY MAY 6, 2019

The Warren County Commissioners were sworn in for the month of May 2019 by Michelle Hetrick, Clerk. Present for the meeting were Clay Andrews, Brian Jordan, Adam Hanthorne and Jud Barce, County Attorney. Also, in attendance were Greg Robison, Ryan Platt, Tony McAhren, Jenny Hobaugh, Matt Herndon, Carolyn Orr, Lori Austin, Steve Eberly, Neal Austin, John Kuiper, Kimberly Dickey, Phil Astell, Rusty Hart, Randy Haddock.

1. The meeting was called to order by Brian Jordan, President of the Commissioners.
2. Brian Jordan led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. New Business:
 - a. Approval of Meeting Agenda – Brian Jordan explained delaying the credit card ordinance to the next meeting and Code Red be moved to the top. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.
 - b. Code Red – Jordan explained the Code Red services to the public stating the program is a reverse 911 program in conjunction with Fountain County. This service is to get emergency information out to the public such as snow emergencies, travel advisories, road closures, severe weather etc. The contract is a 3-year contract. Jud Barce explained the changes to the original contract. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to subscribe with Fountain County for the Code Red contract at a total cost of \$10,500 for each county with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. The contract was signed. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to fund Code Red from Riverboat or Rainy Day with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - c. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the April 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.
 - d. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the April 1, 2019 through April 15, 2019 Accounts Payable Claim Dockets with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.
 - e. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve the April 26, 2019 Payroll Dockets with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.
 - f. Highway Department – Matt Herndon, Highway Department Superintendent, stated the ditching machine has been ordered with approximate delivery the first week in June. Herndon stated the surplus equipment for the Highway includes 2 older tractors, grader, trailer, etc. The retired trucks will be traded in rather than sold. Herndon discussed the bridge estimates for Bridge #66 and #23 repairs. Herndon will be getting estimates for work on paving in Hedrick and this will give us an idea of costs for other town road work. Jenny Hobaugh, Highway Department Office Manager, stated that the town roads were added to the road assessment plan with the possibility of adding to the 2020 Community Crossings Grant which due date is July 1st. Hobaugh presented the Annual Operational Report that was signed at the last meeting, but ITAP has required a new form to be signed. Andrews inquired about the county road work. Herndon explained that the weather has not been helpful. Andrews inquired about trucking claims. Herndon explained that it is cheaper to have the stone hauled in to keep the Highway trucks hauling the stone out faster. The amount of stone has been difficult to keep up with due to the weather and county road traffic. Hobaugh stated New Bridge off Grant Street, has been reopened.
 - g. Steve Eberly, Local Economic Development Organization Director and Tony McAhren, Watch Communications – Eberly presented information concerning the unemployment of the State and County. McAhren introduced himself and explained that Watch Communications, parent company Benton Ridge, is a broadband network from eastern Ohio into Illinois. The northern Warren County connections have been upgraded to 25/3 internet service. The Next Level Connection funds from the State will allow Watch to use Microsoft Air fixed wireless which will touch more customers. The WHIN project will provide the possibly lowering internet service costs and wireless with security capability to local residents. Watch Communications would like to work with local providers and has applied for grants to help with the broadband study project. McAhren explained that he is trying to give visibility to the County. The end result is faster speeds to the residents and businesses of the County. Carolyn Orr, Steuben Township resident, inquired from Eberly concerning the local provider names being presented to WHIN as there has not been any contact to the local providers. Eberly stated that the local provider names were presented to WHIN. McAhren explained that Watch Communications will be using the \$300,000 from the WHIN grant for a broadband study. Orr inquired about rather than using the grant funds for another study, use the grant funds to provide hardware. McAhren would like to work through WHIN to establish partnerships with local internet providers.
 - h. Surplus Property, 2007 Ambulance – Jordan explained there has been interest from the Mellott Fire Department to purchase the ambulance from the County with an offer of \$1,000. Adam Hanthorne made a motion to sell the 2007 ambulance to the Mellott Fire Department for \$1,000 with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor. Resolution #2019-056 was signed by all. Weston-Hubner explained that she will present surplus equipment from all departments at the next meeting.
 - i. Congressional School Report – Weston-Hubner explained the report and the congressional funding to each school. The amounts are - MSD \$525.65, Covington \$18.90, Benton Schools \$541.85 which is disbursed twice a year. Jordan explained the funds to the public. Clay Andrews made a motion to approve The Congressional School Report with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.
 - j. Petition to vacate county road - Carolyn Orr and Ryan Platt, explained that they are landowners that are requesting County Road 450W, located north of 3rd street West Lebanon, to be vacated. The road is not being maintained by the County presently. The petition will be advertised and motion made at the June 3, 2019 meeting. Barce explained the process and will place the advertisement in the newspaper as well as prepare the ordinance. The ordinance will preserve the easements that exist.
 - k. Rusty Hart, Sheriff, presented the 2019 Jail Department of Correction inspection report. There are approximately 250 items that are checked as well as the inmates and workers are interviewed. There were 2 very minor items that were found deficient. The inspector was complimentary of the building, staff, etc. Hart explained that the outdoor recreation was mentioned concerning the needed repairs that have been previously discussed. Housing billed for the first 4 months of 2019 is approximately \$54,000 and the funds are given back to the county. The

last year. Hart explained the generator at the Jail is in need of repair. Clinger Engineering has been contacted to look at the generator. The generator only runs critical systems in the jail. Hart will contact the Commissioners with the repair information. Weston-Hubner inquired about having the Courthouse on a generator. The Commissioners will explore this as a possibility in the future.

- l. Section Corner Surveying – Jordan explained that Westwood Professional Services will be doing cornerstone surveying for the Jordan Creek Wind Farm and there will be some excavating of gravel roads. Westwood will try to contact landowners and local residents to ensure awareness.
- m. Phil Astell, EMA Director, explained the tower behind St Vincent Clinic backup has been installed which is \$20 per month for electricity and will be paid by St Vincent. Astell suggested a trash ordinance for the County similar to Fountain County trash ordinance. The need for a Courthouse backup generator is something to explore for the future. Clinger Engineering is looking at the cost to provide minimum service to the courthouse through a generator. Pine Village has a \$12,000 - \$15,000 generator that was purchased through a grant many years ago and is in need of repair. EMA pays the yearly contract due to the area being a secondary point for emergency location for the EMA. Astell explained that the generator is in need of repair costing approximately \$300 – \$400. Pine Village Town and Fire Department do not want to pay for the repair if it is a large amount. Pine Village does provide the insurance on the generator. Barce discussed a joint resolution explaining the ownership, insurance and maintenance between the County and Pine Village. Barce will prepare a resolution. Jordan stated that Bryan Lanham, EMS has requested room in the EMA building to store an ambulance. The leak in the roof was discussed as well as an electrical issue, Jordan is working on repairs. Astell stated there are electrical and phone issues in the EMA offices as well. Hart recommended having lights installed in the 3rd bay to help as Sheriff has storage there. Kuiper stated the County follows the State code concerning the trash ordinance and burning. Hart stated that currently there is no penalty that can be enforced. Jordan asked Kuiper to email Fountain County for a copy of their trash/burn ordinance for review by the Commissioners and County Attorney.

4. Elected Official/Department Head comments:

- a. Weston-Hubner presented a letter of resignation from John Kuiper, American Disabilities Act Director. Jordan volunteered to maintain that position until further notice.
- b. Weston-Hubner explained the additional appropriations that were approved by the Council for the Extension Data Manager position and the Highway Equipment for the ditching machine.
- c. Astell stated that the courthouse generator that was discussed earlier in the meeting, is needed in the event of a County emergency. Astell further explained the Commissioners, Auditor, Council, Treasurer must have the ability to approve County business in the event of an emergency.

5. Old Business:


6. Public Comment:


- a. Neal Austin inquired about the Road Use Agreements concerning the Jordan Creek Windfarm micro sighting. Jordan explained the roads to be used are still being explored.
- b. Kimberly Dickey, NextEra Energy Resources inquired about the APC meeting. Barce explained there will be a regular APC meeting on May 21st with the possibility of a later meeting for the petition. Possibly the first Commissioner meeting in July. Kimberly explained that the micro sighting will be delayed for at least another week due to the weather with the possibility of starting during the week of May 13th. Westwood will begin surveying in the next week or so as well. Keeping the public informed when surveying. There will be information posted on the County website and sheriff Facebook.


Next Commissioner will be held May 20, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

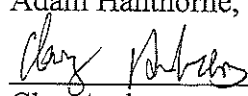
There being no further business Clay Andrews made a motion to adjourn with a second from Adam Hanthorne, all voted in favor.

ATTEST:


Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor


W. Brian Jordan, President


Adam Hanthorne, Vice President


Clay Andrews